

DCARML-010

- 2 -

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace all claims in the instant application with the listing below amending claims 1, 8-10, 25, 29, and 34-36 and canceling claim 7 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A lifting sling, said lifting sling comprising:

a plurality of core fibers forming a ~~said lifting~~ sling body;

a coating comprised of at least an isocyanate mixed with an amine forming polyurea;

a safety core bonded by said coating proximate to said plurality of core fibers.
ends of said safety core are concealed within said coating;

said coating further comprising:

an initial layer of said coating that seals said plurality of core fibers from exposure to contaminants;

a plurality of additional layers applied to areas of said ~~lifting~~ sling body subject to high crush and shear forces; and

a final splatter layer of said coating applied along said ~~lifting~~ sling body, said final splatter layer creating a rugged textured non-slip grip exterior surface.

DCARML-010

- 3 -

1 2. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 coating is selected from the group consisting of a polyurea elastomer, or a hybrid
3 polyurethane – polyurea elastomer.
4

1 3. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 coating has an operational temperature range of -40 to 175 degrees Celsius.
3

1 4. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 coating has a tensile strength in the range of up to 6,500 pounds per square inch, an
3 elongation range of up to 300 percent, and a tear resistance in the range of up to 600
4 pounds per linear inch.
5

1 5. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 coating includes at least one of the following additives:
3

- 4 i) a catalyst;
5 ii) a stabilizer;
6 iii) a pigment;
7 iv) a fire retardant;
8 v) a static electricity reducing additive;
9 vi) an ultraviolet filtering additive; or
10 vii) a thermal cycling additive.
11

1 6. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 plurality of core fibers include at least one of the following:
3

- 4 i) nylon;

DCARML-010

- 4 -

- 5 ii) polyester;
- 6 iii) a synthetic fiber;
- 7 iv) polypropylene;
- 8 v) wire rope;
- 9 vi) steel core;
- 10 vii) cordage rope;
- 11 viii) yarn;
- 12 ix) NOMAX;
- 13 x) KEVLAR; or
- 14 xi) chain.

15

1 7. (Canceled)

2

1 8. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1 [7], wherein said
2 safety core traverses said lifting sling.

3

1 9. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1 [7], wherein said
2 safety core is located, with respect to said plurality of core fibers, in at least one of the
3 following locations:

4

- 5 i) seam located;
- 6 ii) perimeter located; or
- 7 iii) centrally located.

8

1 10. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1 [7], wherein said
2 safety core is interconnected with at least one of the following:

3

DCARML-010

- 5 -

- 4 i) an indicator; or
5 ii) an electronic system.

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1 11-15. (Canceled)

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1 16. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 lifting sling further comprising at least one of the following:

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- 4 i) an indicator secured proximate to said plurality of core fibers; or
5 ii) an electronic system secured proximate to said plurality of core fibers.

6

1 17. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 16, wherein said
2 electronic system further comprising at least one of the following:

3

- 4 i) a microcontroller;
5 ii) a graphical user interface;
6 iii) a keypad;
7 iv) a touch pad;
8 v) a plurality of general purpose inputs and outputs;
9 vi) a safety core interface;
10 vii) a lifting sling measurement and dynamics interface;
11 viii) an RFID interface;
12 ix) an IRDA interface;
13 x) a transceiver;
14 xi) a wireless data link;
15 xii) a LAN interface;
16 xiii) a WAN interface;

DCARML-010

- 6 -

- 17 xiv) a serial data link;
18 xv) a GPS interface;
19 xvi) a power supply;
20 xvii) a flash memory;
21 xviii) a read only memory;
22 xix) a real time clock;
23 xx) an EEROM; or
24 xxi) a NOVRAM.

25

1 18. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 16, wherein said
2 indicator or said electronic system indicates operational condition of said lifting sling,
3 suitability for use of said lifting sling, or security status of an article secured by said
4 lifting sling.

5

1 19-24 (Canceled)

2

1 25. (Currently Amended) A lifting sling, said lifting sling comprising:

2

3 a plurality of core fibers forming a ~~said lifting~~ sling body;

4

5 a coating comprised of at least an isocyanate mixed with an amine forming
6 polyurea;

7

8 an electronic system secured by said coating proximate to said plurality of core
9 fibers;

10

11 said coating further comprising:

DCARML-010

- 7 -

12

13 an initial layer of said coating that seals said plurality of core fibers from
14 exposure to contaminants;

15

16 a plurality of additional layers applied to areas of said ~~[lifting]~~ sling body
17 subject to high crush and shear forces; and

18

19 a final splatter layer of said coating applied along said ~~[lifting]~~ sling body,
20 said final splatter layer creating a rugged textured non-slip grip exterior
21 surface.

22

1 26. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 25, further
2 comprising a cover, said cover being fitted around said plurality of core fibers, said cover
3 is coated with said coating.

4

1 27. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 25, further
2 comprising a cover, said cover being fitted around said plurality of core fibers, said cover
3 is coated and secured into position with said coating.

4

1 28. (Canceled)

2

1 29. (Currently Amended) A lifting sling, said lifting sling comprising:

2

3 a plurality of core fibers forming a ~~[said lifting]~~ sling body;

4

5 a coating comprised of at least an isocyanate mixed with an amine forming
6 polyurea;

DCARML-010

- 8 -

PAGE 9/9 * RCVD AT 9/8/2009 8:26:06 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFAX-5/13 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:6784174999 * DURATION (mm-ss):02-52

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